

Message Text

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ACTION DEAE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10 JUSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1110

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DEPARTMENT PASS DEA AND USAID

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, PK

SUBJECT: MORPHINE BASE LABORATORIES IN PAKISTAN (KALID,

MOHD DAI-BI UH 75 0002)

REFERENCES: (A) ISLAMABAD 6293

(B) STATE 165269R

1. DEA IS SUBMITTING A BYTAILED REPORT ON SUBJECT CASE.

PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE IS TO MAKE FURTHER OBSERVATIONS ON
THE IMPORZOF THE CASE WITH RESPECT TO PAKISTAN'S PLACE IN
INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFIC.

2. HISTORICALLY THERE HAVE BEEN TWO AREAS IN THE WORLD,
NAMELY TURKEY AND THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE, WHERE OPIUM HAS
BEEN CONVERTED TO MORPHINE BASE. ENTRY OF PAKISTAN INTO
THE MORPHINE BASE SUPPLY MARKET REPRESENTS A NEW DEVELOPMENT
AND ONE WHICH HAS GOOD RATIONAL IN THAT LAWS ARE RELATIVELY

WEAK OR NON-EXISTENT AND,FURTHER, NORTHWEST FRONTIER
PROVINCE OFFERS A PLENTIFUL SUPPLY OF OPIUM AND THE
ADVANTAGES OF A TRIBAL STATE WHERE LAW ENFORCEMENT IS
RELATIVELY WEAK.

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3. POLICE INTELLIGENCE INDICATES THAT THE SEIZED LABORATORIES HAVE BEEN IN OPERATION FOR SEVERAL YEARS MAKING AND DISTRIBUTING OTHER FORMS OF OPIATE DERIVATIVES. THE PRODUCTION HISTORY OF THE LABORATORIES WILL BE BETTER KNOWN WHEN THE PAKISTAN NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD (PNCB) COMPLETES THE INTERROGATION OF THOSE ARRESTED. THE PNCB DOES HAVE INDIRECT INTELLIGENCE THAT AT LEAST TWO OTHER LABS ARE OPERATING IN THE SWAT AREA.

4. INTERROGATIONS TO DATE HAVE REVEALED THAT THERE ARE SEVERAL FRENCH-TRAINED CHEMISTS WHO HAVE BEEN PERFORMING AS TECHNICAL ADVISORS AND THAT DR. KALID HAS A NUMBER OF BROTHERS LOCATED IN HONG KONG, SINGAPORE AND THE UNITED KINGDOM. ALL THE BROTHERS ARE COLLEGE TRAINED PROFESSIONAL DOCTORS AND CHEMISTS. AT THE PRESENT TIME THE PNCB IS ATTEMPTING TO DETERMINE THE EXACT ADDRESSES AND THE NUMBER OF TRIPS THE BROTHERS HAVE MADE TO AND FROM PAKISTAN IN THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS.

5. THIS INVESTIGATION, AS NOTED, HAS REVEALED THAT SOME FOREIGNERS HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE MORPHINE BASE CONVERSION PROCESS. DUE TO THE PROFITABILITY AND THE LOW RISK THAT EXISTS IN PAKISTAN FOR THOSE WHO VIOLATE DRUG LAWS

A. INTEREST IN PAKISTAN AS A LOCUS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF MORPHINE BASE COULD INCREASE. FURTHERMORE, THERE IS THE POSSIBILITY--IF SUCH IS NOT ALREADY THE CASE--THAT ILLICIT DRUG PRODUCTION FACILITIES COULD BE MOVED TO TRIBAL AREAS OF THE FRONTIER WHICH ARE REMOTE AND ARE VIRTUALLY UNPOLICED BY THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.

6. WITH THE ABOVE IN MIND, THE EMBASSY WISHES TO MAKE SEVERAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS.

A. FIRST OF ALL, THE EMBASSY COMMENDS SAIC CARTER FOR HIS SKILLFUL HANDLING OF THIS INVESTIGATION AND APPRECIATES THE CCINC CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL CONCERNED CONVEYED BY AMBASSADOR VANCE IN REF B. THE EMBASSY RECOMMENDS DEA GIVE RECOGNITION TO SAIC CARTER AS DEEMED APPROPRIATE. HIS CAREFUL HANDLING HAS LED TO IMPROVED MORALE AND PRIDE IN JOB AMONG THE PAKISTANI POLICE AUTHORITY.

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TIES AND HAS SERVED WELL WHAT IS AND SHOULD BE THE PRIMARY, BASIC OBJECTIVE OF DEA IN PAKISTAN: DEVELOPING AN IN-COUNTRY PAKISTANI CAPABILITY FOR DEALING WITH PROBLEMS OF ILLEGAL DRUG PRODUCTION AND TRAFFIC.

B. NEXT, THE EMBASSY ASKS THAT THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDER WHETHER THERE MIGHT BE ADVANTAGE IN MAKING SPECIAL NOTE OF THIS CASE AND ITS PARTICULARS IN A UN FORUM, NOTABLY THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS. THE PURPOSE WOULD BE

TO BRING SOME FURTHER PRESSURE UPON PAKISTAN TO QUICKEN
ITS ANTI-NARCOTICS EFFORTS WHICH HAVE NOT, ALL IN ALL,
BEEN SATISFACTORY FOR REASONS WELL KNOWN TO THE DEPARTMENT.

7. WE WILL, AS SUGGESTED IN REFERENCE B, CONVEY CCINC
CONGRATULATIONS AT TOP LEVELS OF THE GOP. WITHIN THE
COMING WEEK I PLAN PERSONAL CALLS UPON SENIOR FOREIGN

MINISTRY AND INTERIOR MINISTRY OFFICIALS AND ON THE
CHAIRMAN OF THE PNCB. IN EXTENDING CONGRATULATIONS I
INTEND ALSO TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF TOP OFFICIALS TO THE
THREAT TO PAKISTAN IMPLICIT IN RECENT DEVELOPMENTS, NAMELY
THE ADVERSE EFFECT ON PAKISTAN'S INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION,
THE POSSIBILITY THAT WORLD ORGANIZED CRIME WITH ITS
CORRUPTING INFLUENCES MIGHT BE FURTHER ATTRACTED TO
PAKISTAN, AND THE POSSIBILITY THAT ALL THIS MAY CREATE A
GREATER DRUG USER PROBLEM FOR PAKISTAN ITSELF. AN
APPROACH IN THIS CONNECTION TO THE PRIME MINISTER HIMSELF
IS BELIEVED WARRANTED BUT THIS SHALL BE DELAYED--UNLESS
OPPORTUNITY IS AFFORDED EARLIER--UNTIL THE RETURN OF THE
AMBASSADOR IN A FEW WEEKS SINCE HE HAS DISCUSSED THE DRUG
PROBLEM IN PAKISTAN IN DETAIL WITH THE PRIME MINISTER
ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS.
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